



## **Grandparents, Grandkids, and Grand Valley (G3) Camp**

### **~Concept Sheet~**

#### **WHAT:**

G3 is a program for grandparents and grandchildren (ages 8-12) to come together for a 3-day educational experience while spending time together on the GVSU campus. Families would stay two nights in the Living Centers and utilize Campus Dining. Classes are taught by GVSU faculty who volunteer and are held during the day in the campus academic buildings. In the evening, there are various activities that families can choose to attend.

Participants can sign up for classes covering many different topics and formats from the various colleges, depending on their interests. Classes are taught in a manner that appeals to the range of ages within the group. Class sizes are 15-30 participants and 90 or 180 minutes long, depending on the type of class. On the final day, a luncheon and graduation ceremony is held. Children are supervised at all times by their grandparents.

#### **WHEN:**

Target date is June 23-25, 2015.

#### **WHY:**

This is a growing trend in universities across the nation and state. Michigan State University is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year, Central Michigan University is in its 6<sup>th</sup> year. These camps have been extremely popular among the participants as well as the faculty and staff. They provide a great opportunity for generations to connect on neutral territory. Kids will be exposed to the GVSU campus and the opportunity to live on campus; grandparents can share their education experience with their grandkids; grandparents can spend quality, educational time with their grandkids and not have to worry about entertaining them or guessing what to feed them. This could also provide community service opportunities for faculty as well as research opportunities in gerontology, education, and other disciplines.

#### **WHERE:**

Housing, meals, and classes would be held at the Allendale campus. Some classes could be held at the Pew campus, Cook-Devos Center for Health Services, or the Annis Water Resources Institute.

#### **WHO:**

Partners with the RMSC would potentially include colleges and departments of GVSU, Alumni Relations, University Development, and Athletics.

#### **HOW:**

The program would be financially self-supporting, with attendees paying tuition. There are grants for at-risk families or research.